



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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Market News Branch

NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Market conditions were no better than steady on both parts and whole-body product. Demand was light for fill-in interest with current availability from production areas easily covering any need. When spot sales were noted, pricing was well below last weeks levels. Feature activity for the weekend was limited at the current time. Schedules were normal at processing plants.

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for next week's trading declined .25 cent to 61.00 cents based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 68.25 cents last year on the 22nd of July 1998.

Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted prices on ice-packed parts for next week's trading.

ITEM	DOCK PRICE (CENTS PER POUND)
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BREASTS - B/S	162.50
BREASTS - WHOLE	80.00
THIGH MEAT - B/S	64.00
LEG QUARTERS	22.50
WINGS	53.00

THIS INFORMATION IS SUPPLIED BY THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S POULTRY MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

CHICK PLACEMENT AND EGG SET TOTAL

15 STATES	PERCENT CHANGE	
WEEK ENDING 7/17/99	1999	1998
EGGS SET	182,638	176,107
CHICKS PLACED	145,256	140,233

PERCENT CHANGE PREVIOUS YEAR
+04
+04

Broiler Eggs Set In 15 Selected States Up 4 Percent

Commercial hatcheries in the 15-State weekly program set in incubators 183 million eggs during the week ending July 17, 1999. This was up 4 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 82 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

Broiler Chicks Placed Up 4 Percent

Broiler growers in the 15-State weekly program placed 145 million chicks for meat production during the week ending July 17, 1999. Placements were up 4 percent from the comparable week in 1998. Cumulative placements from January 3, 1999, through July 17, 1999, were 4.06 billion, up 3 percent from the same period a year earlier.

BASED ON THE PRELIMINARY CHICK PLACEMENTS, THE NUMBER OF FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING DURING THE WEEK ENDING 28-Aug-99 IS ESTIMATED AT 154.5 MILLION HEAD. THIS COMPARES TO 155.4 MILLION HEAD THE PREVIOUS WEEK AND TO 148.5 MILLION HEAD THE SAME WEEK A YEAR AGO, WHEN THE SLAUGHTER WAS 150.8 MILLION HEAD AND THE 12-CITY WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE WAS 72.47 CENTS PER POUND.

WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS The market tone was ranged steady to weak. Offerings were readily available and often difficult to place. Buyer interest was only fair. Demand by restaurants was moderate overall, best by fast food; demand by stores was fair to fairly good where featured otherwise moderate at best. The market tone was at least steady on wings and barely steady to weak on breast items.

SOUTHERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trade sentiment was barely steady to weak. Demand was slow to moderate with little or no trading. Supplies were adequate to ample with discounted prices not having much effect on movement. In the parts structure, all items were at least sufficient with wings in better balance. Trading was moderate to good for wings, but all other items were unaggressive and slowly moving. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were desirable to heavy, mostly desirable.

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Whole broiler/fryer trade sentiment was barely steady, instances weak. Additional whole bird offerings were fully adequate with limited buyer interest even at discounted prices. Fill in trading in the Chicago area reported whole fryers at 40 cents. Retail and food service was slow to fair, mostly slow with many buyers puzzled by the lack of consumer interest. Floor stocks were adequate to instances ample and some operators reducing mid-week shipments to keep supplies balanced. Sizes were mostly desirable. Parts trading was mixed and highly selective. Supplies continued increasing to fully adequate or burdensome levels for all items, except wings and whole breasts which remained adequate to instances short. In the Chicago area, features reported at major chains on boneless/skinless breasts at \$1.69 to \$1.79. In Ohio, one major chain featured breast quarters at 89 cents. A major chain in the Upper Midwest featured split breasts at \$.98. The trade sentiment was steady on whole breasts and wings, cautiously steady to weak on the balance of items.

NORTHEAST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trucklot buying interest on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was very limited. Offerings were generally adequate with additional product often competitively priced and doing little to stimulate dealer interest. Retail and distributive movement was disappointing with very little optimism noted. The market tone was mostly weak. In the parts market, product was difficult to place even at attractive price levels.

DELMARVA BROILER/FRYER MARKET Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was sluggish. Seller offerings were readily available and difficult to place. Live supplies were at least moderate; weights were light to heavy, mostly desirable to heavy. Processing schedules were moderately heavy. Less than trucklot asking prices were 1 cent lower at 54 to 66 cents. Trade sentiment was weak and unsettled. In the parts complex, supplies were fully adequate to ample for the generally lackluster buying interest.

*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA.

RANGE	BRANDED U.S. GRADE A
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	54-77
NO. OF BOXES	59.06
	6,020

*6 of 8 plants reporting.

JULY 20, 1999					JULY 21, 1999				
<u>SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS</u>									
POUNDS					POUNDS				
ITEM	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	AVG	ITEM	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	AVG
BREAST - B/S	1,055	130.00-196.50	145-150	152.23	BREAST - B/S	1,116	135.00-196.50	145-150	152.18
TENDERLOINS	119	135.00-195.00	135-140	148.87	TENDERLOINS	98	136.00-195.00	-	153.88
BREAST - LINE RUN	99	75.00-77.00	-	76.84	BREAST - LINE RUN	101	69.00-75.00	70-72	71.94
FRONT HALVES	114	51.00-71.00	-	57.23	FRONT HALVES	743	55.00-71.00	-	60.81
LEGS	172	24.00-32.00	25-26	25.95	LEGS	120	27.00-32.00	27-28	28.67
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	471	14.00-21.00	17-18	17.43	LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	640	14.00-22.00	17	17.38
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,544	17.00-23.00	19-20	20.00	LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,032	18.00-25.00	19-21	20.16
WINGS (WHOLE)	144	46.00-55.00	47-49	51.01	WINGS (WHOLE)	251	44.00-55.00	-	50.33
WINGS (CUT)	532	57.00-69.00	60-62	61.37	WINGS (CUT)	636	57.00-69.00	61-62	62.13
DRUMSTICKS	27	25.00-28.00	-	25.78	DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	88	54.00-72.00	-	58.36	B/S THIGHS	90	55.00-72.00	-	59.67

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WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR JULY 20, 1999 — F.O.B. DOCK.					WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR JULY 21, 1999 — F.O.B. DOCK.				
		RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE				TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE	
		32.50-46.00	37.33				34.50 - 46.50	39.10	40.43

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

<u>NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS</u>								
Trucklot buying interest was extremely slow with dealers having difficulty attracting trades even at increasingly competitive price levels. Offerings were readily available. Movement into retail and distributive channels was a struggle with optimism at a minimum. The market tone continued weak with underlying sentiment building in cautiousness.								
*PRICES PAID PER POUND, ICE PACKED AND CO2 PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL								
TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES				JULY 20, 1999		JULY 21, 1999		
ITEM	CURRENT NEG	WTD		ITEM	CURRENT NEG	WTD		
	TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS		TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS	
BREAST - B/S	140-150	158.11	419,510	BREAST - B/S	140-150	154.78	381,880	
TENDERLOINS	-	138.35	51,640	TENDERLOINS	-	139.76	50,480	
BREAST - WITH RIBS	70-71	76.36	200,880	BREAST - WITH RIBS	69-70	77.31	156,760	
BREAST - LINE RUN	70	71.69	93,540	BREAST - LINE RUN	69	68.81	143,200	
LEGS	29-30	33.46	164,360	LEGS	28-29	33.10	168,600	
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	18-19	19.02	337,598	LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	17-18	19.72	322,669	
DRUMSTICKS	30-31	33.27	81,870	DRUMSTICKS	30-31	32.61	66,830	
THIGHS	17-18	29.89	43,640	THIGHS	17-18	27.58	54,920	
B/S THIGHS	70-71	70.92	41,420	B/S THIGHS	70-71	71.12	40,160	
WINGS (WHOLE)	52-53	60.93	106,120	WINGS (WHOLE)	52-53	59.34	174,000	
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.35	23,520	BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.01	15,600	
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	15-20	25.26	17,210	LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	15-20	25.22	15,640	
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	35-40	39.62	34,105	GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	35-40	39.61	25,720	

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG).
 * TODAY'S NEGOTIATED SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.
 ** WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

<u>ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)</u>										<u>SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY</u>			
										<u>DELIVERED TO RETAILERS</u>			
		<u>ESTIMATED</u>		<u>ACTUAL</u>		<u>AVG WTS</u>		<u>ACTUAL WTS</u>		<u>RANGE</u>			
		07/21	07/20	07/19	07/16	07/19	07/16	07/14	07/12				
ALA		3,916	3,885	3,814	4,181	5.11	4.95	3,753	5.12	FRESH FRYERS 82-84			
ARK		5,120	5,178	4,673	6,091	4.98	4.62	5,088	4.89	ROASTERS 4# & UP 82-90			
DELMARVA		2,474	2,415	2,421	2,425	5.08	4.99	2,453	4.96	HENS UNDER 5# -			
KY-LA-TN		1,805	1,804	1,754	1,994	4.56	4.36	1,761	4.57	HENS OVER 5# 83-91			
MISS		2,798	2,790	2,435	2,850	4.98	4.89	2,786	5.04	DUCKS 135			
NC		2,597	2,612	2,554	2,732	5.67	5.56	2,578	5.76	RABBITS-WHOLE 359			
TEXAS		2,077	2,055	2,060	2,664	4.69	4.63	2,071	4.82	RABBITS-CUT UP 376			
TOTAL		20,787	20,739	19,711	22,937	5.04	4.84	20,490	5.03	<u>SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY</u>			
MON-WED 62,305 (A)										<u>DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS</u>			
										FRESH FRYERS ICE PACK 92-98			
										DRY PACK 108			
										ROASTERS 4# & UP ICE PACK 104-110			
										DRY PACK 118			
										HENS OVER 5# ICE PACK 92			
										DRY PACK 98			
										DUCKS 149-166			

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.
 Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 21-Jul 99 is estimated to be 31,100,000 up 1.15 percent from a week ago and up 8.9 percent from a year ago.
 (Last week 30,747,000; last year 28,549,000)

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING JULY 17

	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK
	07/24/99 (1)	07/17/99
CLASS	THOUSAND HEAD	
BRO-FRY	160,983 (2)	152,457
LT HENS	2,327	3,610
HVY HENS	1,514	1,643
CHECK TOTAL	164,824	157,710

(1)ESTIMATED

(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 24-Jul-99 is 155.7 million head compared to 147.5 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 162.9 million head or 7.2 million more than estimated available. For week of 31-Jul-99 the estimated available is 156.4 million head.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS

SELECTED STORAGE CENTERS

(INCLUDES GOVERNMENT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEY	PROCESSED POULTRY
	LBS	LBS
AM 19-Jul-99	183,080	96,456
AM 1-July-99	180,335	96,237
CHG	2745	219
PCT CHG	2	0

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT

(IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	07/19/99	07/12/99	07/20/98	07/19/99	07/12/99	07/20/98
PACIFIC COAST LOS ANGELES	40,668	41,183	43,580	19,777	21,442	7,513
	279	1,191	549	10,200	10,147	2,968

HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES

FOR 07/20/99

	LO	HI	AVG		LO	HI	AVG
HEAVY FOWL lb.	.45	1.10	.57	HEAVY FOWL ea.	-	-	-
LIGHT FOWL lb.	-	-	-	LIGHT FOWL ea.	-	-	-
MIXED FOWL lb.	-	-	-	MIXED FOWL ea.	-	-	-
BANTAMS lb.	.45	.70	.58	BANTAMS ea.	.50	1.00	-
BROILERS lb.	-	-	-	BROILERS ea.	-	-	-
ROASTERS lb.	-	-	-	ROASTERS ea.	-	-	-
FRYERS lb.	-	-	-	FRYERS ea.	-	-	-
CHICKS lb.	-	.50	-	CHICKS ea.	-	.50	-
PULLETS lb.	-	-	-	PULLETS ea.	5.00	6.75	-
BUNNIES lb.	-	-	-	BUNNIES ea.	.75	2.00	-
ROOSTERS lb.	.30	1.25	.64	ROOSTERS ea.	.35	.70	-
GEESE lb.	-	.10	-	GEESE ea.	-	3.00	-
TURKEYS lb.	.60	1.25	.82	TURKEYS ea.	5.00	5.50	-
DUCKS lb.	.50	1.45	1.08	DUCKS ea.	2.00	6.50	-
RABBITS lb.	.40	1.10	.86	RABBITS ea.	-	-	-
PIGEONS lb.	-	-	-	PIGEONS ea.	1.00	2.75	-
GUINEA FOWL lb.	-	-	-	GUINEA FOWL ea.	-	10.00	-
DUCKLINGS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKLINGS ea.	1.00	1.50	-
GUINEA KEETS ea.	2.00	3.00	-	CALL DUCKS ea.	-	10.50	-
SILKIES ea.	-	3.75	-	GOSLINGS ea.	-	1.00	-
GUINEA PIGS ea.	-	2.00	-				

TOTAL COOPS 94

CENTRAL MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY RTC HENS

READY-TO-COOK PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR DELIVERY TO FIRST RECEIVERS, U.S. GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5LBS. AND UP, FOR WEEK OF JULY 19, 1999.

HENS		RANGE
ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)		60-62
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)		66

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